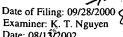
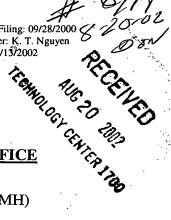


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Date: 08/13/2002





IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: James R. Halladay et al.

Docket No.: IR-2763(MH)

Serial No.:

09/672,437

Group Art Unit: 1774

Filed:

September 28, 2000

Examiner: Kimberly T. Nguyen

For: Composite Shims Having a Laminate Structure

August 13, 2002

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION **UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

Honorable Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 13, 2002, kindly amend the subject application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Amended) A composite shim having a laminate structure, the composite shim having a central axis, the composite shim comprising a first composite layer including at least one circumferential fiber, said circumferential fiber being oriented in a plane that is substantially perpendicular to said central axis.
- 13.(Amended) A composite shim according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one [hoop wound] circumferential fiber is selected from the group consisting of carbon, graphite, glass, aramid and boron.